

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) An image forming apparatus comprising:
 - a first chamber including a first mixer and configured to convey a developer containing at least toner in a first direction while stirring the developer and supply the toner to an image carrier;
 - a second chamber including a second mixer and configured to convey at least the developer supplied from the first chamber in a second direction different from the first direction while stirring the developer;
 - a third chamber including a third mixer and configured to convey at least the developer supplied from the first chamber in the second direction while stirring the developer;
 - a fresh toner supply portion located on an upstream side of the second chamber and configured to receive fresh toner; and
 - a recycle toner supply portion located on an upstream side of the third chamber and configured to receive recycle toner collected from a surface of the image carrier.
2. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a downstream side of the first chamber is connected to a first communicating portion located on an upstream side of the second chamber and a second communicating portion located on an upstream side of the third chamber.
3. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the first communicating portion is separated from the second communicating portion.
4. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the fresh toner supply portion is located on a downstream side of the first communicating portion.
5. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a first conveying path including the first chamber and the second chamber, the second mixer conveying the developer containing the fresh toner at a ~~the~~ first speed; and a second conveying path including the first chamber and the third chamber, the third mixer conveying the developer containing the recycle toner at a ~~the~~ second speed which is slower than the first speed.

6. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the second speed is one third of the first speed.

7. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the second conveying path is longer than the first conveying path in length.

8. (Original) A toner stirring method comprising:
supplying recycle toner collected from a surface of an image carrier to a recycle toner supply portion;
conveying the supplied recycle toner to a merging portion at a first speed while stirring, thereby charging to have a predetermined potential;
conveying refresh toner supplied to a fresh toner supply portion at a predetermined timing to the merging portion at a second speed which is slower than the first speed while stirring, thereby charging to have a predetermined potential; and
supplying the recycle toner and the fresh toner that have been conveyed to the merging portion to the surface of the image carrier.

9. (Original) The toner stirring method according to claim 8, the first speed is one third of the second speed.